



# Nevada Ag Stats NEWSLETTER

“ Fact Finders For Nevada Agriculture”

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## **Hired Workers Up 4 Percent, Wage Rates Up 2 Percent From a Year Ago**

There were 1,157,000 hired workers on the Nation’s farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 826,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 331,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.13 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up 20 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.49 per hour, up 27 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.43 per hour, was up 19 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.7 for hired workers during the survey week, up 7 percent from a year ago.

## **United States Cattle on Feed Up 3 Percent**

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.5 million head on November 1, 2010. The inventory was 3 percent above November 1, 2009.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.50 million, 1 percent above 2009. Net placements were 2.44 million head. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 725,000, 600-699 pounds were

640,000, 700-799 pounds were 514,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 625,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.73 million, 1 percent below 2009. This is the second lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of October since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 62,000 during October, 5 percent above 2009.

## **November Crop & Weather Summary**

November was a mostly quiet month with the exception of a strong winter storm that blew through the region late in the month. Las Vegas recorded the monthly high of 86 degrees. Ely recorded the lowest temperature of the month at -20 degrees. Precipitation was scattered during the month. Ely recorded the most precipitation with 1.65 inches. Nevada farmers and ranchers generally completed most field work by month’s end. Seasonal onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Cattle movement slowed throughout the month as ranchers moved livestock to market and winter grazing. Main farm and ranch activities include: weed control, equipment maintenance, and planting of fall-seeded crops.

Station	High	Low	Avg.	Departure From Normal	Precipitation
Reno	76	10	40.9	0.0	0.45
Elko	73	-14	32.6	-1.9	1.55
Ely	74	-20	31.1	-2.4	1.65
Winnemucca	72	-10	34.1	-3.3	1.37
Eureka	75	-12	32.4	-1.2	1.43
Tonopah	75	8	38.3	-1.4	0.87
Las Vegas	86	30	56.3	1.3	0.01

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## **Nevada Hay Prices**

### **State Report**

Nevada hay prices for November were up for all hay, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures and all other hay. The all hay price, at \$132.00 per ton, is up \$10.00 from October and \$27.00 from last November. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$132.00 per ton, up \$10.00 from October. All other hay came in at \$120.00 per ton. October hay prices were \$122.00 for all hay, \$122.00 for alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, and \$110.00 for all other hay.

### **National Report**

On the national level for November, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, all other hay and all hay prices were down from October. The all hay price, at \$111 per ton, is down \$2.00 from October but up \$6.00 from last November. Alfalfa came in at \$117.00 per ton, down \$1.00 from last month. All other hay came in at \$95.50 per ton. In October, the price of all hay was \$113.00 per ton, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures was \$118.00 per ton while all other hay was \$96.90.

### **Data Reliability**

These prices are the result of our monthly Hay Prices Received by Farmers survey. Reporters include both producers and dealers. These prices represent average price at point of first sale for all grades and qualities sold. The average price concept is that price which would result from dividing the total dollars received by all farmers, before any marketing charges are deducted, by total quantity sold.

## **Nevada Potato Production Projected Up From Last Year**

Nevada fall potato production is forecast at 2.66 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year. While yield is forecast at 450 cwt per acre, down 20 cwt per acre from 2009, harvested area is estimated at 5,900 acres up from 5,100 acres one year ago.

United States Potato production of fall potatoes for 2010 is forecast at 399 million cwt, down 7 percent from 2009. Area harvested, at 1,009 thousand acres, is down slightly from last year. The average yield, forecast at 396 cwt per acre, is down 18 cwt per acre from last year's yield.

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